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Plague is reported epidemic in Taiwan (Formosa). From May 15 to 25, cases were reported daily. Many vessels en route to Pacific coast points call there for tea during this season.

An important commission for the study of beriberi has been formed by the Imperial Government, and is to be under the war department. This association is to collect data from the government offices (war and navy), from public and private schools, hospitals, factories, Red Cross Society, and all other available sources. The commission will consist of medical officers of the army and navy, professors of medical colleges, personnel of the Epidemic Institute (Doctor Kitasato's institute) and certain practitioners. It is to be under the presidency of the chief of the medical bureau. The appointment of this commission indicates the importance of the disease to be considered from a military and economic point of view.

Examination of emigrants.

Number of emigrants per steamship *Aki Maru*, recommended June 10 for rejection: For Seattle, 8; advised to wait, 7.

Per steamship *Tenyo Maru* June 16: For San Francisco, advised to wait, 1; for Honolulu, advised to wait, 7.

Per steamship *Shawmut* June 8: For Tacoma, 1; advised to wait, 5. Rejections and detentions were for trachoma.

Report from Kobe—Inspection of vessels—Examination of emigrants—Plague and smallpox at Kobe and Osaka—Smallpox on steamship Mongolia from Hongkong.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Slade reports, June 3, 8, and 16:

Week ended May 30. Supplemental bills of health granted to 5 steamships.

There were inspected 251 crew and 561 steerage passengers, and 3 members of crew and 84 steerage passengers were bathed and had their effects disinfected by steam. The number of pieces of baggage steamed was 206. The number of pieces of bedding similarly treated was 179. Manifests were viséed for 44,245 pieces of freight, amounting to 3,114 tons.

Emigrants examined: Per steamship *Kumeric* for Manila, passed 15, rejected 10; per steamship *Mongolia* for Honolulu, passed 64, rejected 50; for San Francisco, rejected 2.

The official returns of infectious diseases for the week show for Kobe, plague 1 case, 1 death.

The report from Osaka for the week ended May 23, shows, plague 5 cases, 5 deaths; smallpox 27 cases, 15 deaths.

On the arrival, May 30, of the American steamship *Mongolia* at the quarantine station of this port from Hongkong and en route to San Francisco via Yokohama and Honolulu a case of smallpox was discovered on board by the Japanese quarantine officers. The passenger, a Chinese, was taken from the European steerage quarters and landed at Kobe. The authorities cleansed and disinfected the steerage quarters, and bathed and disinfected the steerage passengers and steamed their effects and bedding. On making my inspection I had the remaining 39 passengers and their 3 attendants vaccinated in my presence. These were all who had been exposed. After a careful general

inspection of Asiatic steerage passengers the vessel was allowed to proceed to Yokohama.

Thorough measures were taken by the local authorities in connection with the single case of plague reported above; no further development has taken place. There are no storehouses of firms shipping to America in the immediate vicinity.

Week ended June 6. Supplemental bills of health granted to 4 steamships, and original bills of health granted to 2 steamships.

There were inspected 497 crew and 98 steerage passengers, and there were bathed and had their effects disinfected by steam 55 members of crews and 89 steerage passengers. The number of pieces of baggage steamed was 299, and bedding 180. Manifests were viséed for 16,504 pieces of freight, amounting to 1,963 tons.

Emigrants examined: Per steamship *Aki Maru* for Seattle, passed 79, rejected 51.

The emigrants passed, together with 10 intending passengers to Victoria by the same vessel, were bathed and disinfected and their effects were disinfected before embarkation.

The official reports of infectious diseases for the week show for Kobe, smallpox 4 cases.

The report from Osaka for the week ended May 30 shows plague 2 cases, 2 deaths; smallpox 19 cases, 13 deaths; for the week ended June 6, plague 6 cases, 5 deaths; smallpox 17 cases, 5 deaths.

Week ended June 13. Supplemental bill of health granted to 1 steamship.

There were inspected 124 steerage passengers, and 80 steerage passengers were bathed and had their effects disinfected by steam. The number of pieces of baggage steamed was 127 and bedding 160. Manifests were viséed for 24,599 pieces of freight, amounting to 2,406 tons.

Emigrants examined: Per steamship *Tenyo Maru* for Honolulu, passed 76, rejected 48; for San Francisco, passed 4, rejected 2.

The British steamship *Muncaster Castle* obtained original bill of health from this office June 3. As no new members of crew were taken on here, and as the port was clean, none were vaccinated here or at Yokohama, to which port she went from here. On returning, en route to Moji and Manila, the captain discovered amongst the Chinese crew a man ill with a suspicious rash. He stopped at the quarantine station outside Kobe and requested the Japanese quarantine officers to inspect and pronounce on above case. This they did, confirming the captain's suspicion of smallpox. The man was removed from the ship and the entire personnel were bathed and disinfected and their effects were disinfected. The crew's quarters were disinfected. I advised the captain, as the ship was not entering Kobe harbor, to have the entire personnel vaccinated on the following day at Moji. This he promised to do if the agents agreed. On returning to Kobe I reported the matter to them and learned that the ship was bound for Hongkong before going to Manila. Consequently I cabled the facts of the case, including the statement that the crew had not been vaccinated here, to the United States quarantine officer at Hongkong.